

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: JFelts@gnn.com (jerald felts)
Subject: [4921] 49'er
Message-ID: <199602291549.KAA17360@mail-e2a-service.gnn.com>

What's a 49'er?

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net (Thom LaCosta)
Subject: [4954] 49'er
Message-ID: <2ec_9602291146@fido261.qis.net>

jerald felts wrote in a message to All:
jf> From: JFelts@gnn.com (jerald felts)
jf> Subject: 49'er
jf> What's a 49'er?

'Twas a miner, a 49'er,
And his daughter Clementine'

Thom LaCosta
N3WDV
Our Business is Business
--
|Internet: Thom.LaCosta@f0.n105.z105.fido261.qis.net
|Standard disclaimer: This user speaks only for him/her self.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: John Mckee <jmckee@rfmd.com>
Subject: [4956] 49er
Message-ID: <199602291729.MAA83063@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,

What is the power output of a 40-9er with a power supply of 9v and 12v?

Tnx,

John WB40FT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com
Subject: [4948] 49er sign from above
Message-ID: <135d3bd0@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

well, after reading about the 49er for the last few weeks i was in a friends office and lo and behold there on his desk was an altoids tin. i explained where i heard of them and he gave me an empty. i now have the official chassis so ive been so instructed to build one for myself. i did order the norcal kit because ive got no time to round up the parts. im not sure ill have any time to build it but you cant argue with signs like that.
see you on 40.
73
barry
wb1edi qrp-1 #51 ne qrp #431

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [4947] all sorts of things
Message-ID: <8E1B410BAC@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Sorry, I have not looked at the "QRP Homebuilder" diskette yet. I had Family Services in yesterday to look me over for adopting my wife's daughter. I did find out that the "printdoc" file which was there although I could find nothing to print was put there by the disk distributor. He does that with all disks he sells. So now I will look at the diskette and tell you what I find. I know I had responses from a couple people out there who were interested.

Regarding DC Electronics. I have seen some stuff listed here about them and what you can get from them. I did call and they are in the process of getting a new catalog out. They took my name and will send one when available. Right now, they do not have one available.

Can someone give me an address or something on HSC Electronics??

Finally, anyone in the area who is going to the Michigan City Hamfest on March 30th, give me a shout. Or give N9DD or K9DZE a shout. Tom, N9DD, suggested we have lunch together or something and chat QRP.

72 de WB9NLZ

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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Electronic Design Magazine <dmalinak@CLASS.ORG>
Subject: [4977] Backpacker Special
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960229140502.10622B-100000@class.class.org>

A general question:

Has anyone tried an antenna called the Backpacker Special? It was written up in June 1994 QST, page 68. Essentially, it's a 20- and 40-meter fan dipole with clip-on extensions for all other bands from 10 through 80.

Just wondering.

72 David N2SMH
Glen Rock, NJ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [4976] Bad CW ?
Message-ID: <1996Feb29.164006.14611@abs.net>

I have seen several interesting comments on this thread this week, but no one really addressed the original question that I could tell. The closest that I recall was the one which suggested that it might have been a hardware problem in the transmitter keying circuit. -.-. -.- with the initial dash in the letter Q being altered into a dit. Sounded like a reasonable cause for one person doing that error. Not so likely? for several with the same problem. Or, is it?

WE HAVE ALL SENT SOME BAD CW AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, some of us still do.

I was really pleased to read some of the more thoughtful comments and

suggestions. I thought the idea here was to help each other progress
Not to see HOW QUICKLY WE CAN IGNITE THE FLAME THROWERS!

I went digging in the books again for some other possibilities.
The ARRL HANDBOOK Chapter on Digital Communications yeilds one or
two other possibilities.
Chapter 19 pages 2 and 3 in the 1986 Handbook (I keep one in the desk
drawer at work). Dosen't everyone?

It has a few tables of morse code characters. .-.- is the Letter A
with .. Accent marks over it.
I rather like the one from Table 2, the Russian Character A or YA
Like as in "C" "YA".... HI! HI!

Just goes to show that there is always another way to look at things.

Some of us are here for the Fun that can be had for free.

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. Danny Gingell, K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Rich_Stern_at_WFF-E105@ccmail.gsfc.nasa.gov
Subject: [4964] BUTTERNUT OR GAP? HELP FOR N2VPK
Message-ID: <9601298256.AA825630120@ccmail.gsfc.nasa.gov>

I have installed a BUTTERNUT HF6V-X with the (CPK or CPX?)
counterpoise. Up about 30 feet with three guy wires anchored with
trailer tie-down type corkscrew 'what-u-ma-call-it's. I don't have any
experience with GAP other than what I've read or heard.

The BUTTERNUT I bought from HRO. My QTH is located on the lower
eastern shore of Maryland with LOTS of GAIL force winds.

The assembly was relatively easy. The instructions were lacking
alittle in graphics. (they looked hand drawn). The tuning instuctions
were good.

The material was good quality aluminum. There were plenty of screws
and lockwashers. Plenty of that copper conductive grease for the
mechanical connections (use it!), which seems to get everywhere, no
matter how careful you are. You must take time and layout your parts
and get them oriented. Make sure you have PLENTY of space for this

assembly because this is a TALL vertical. It is suprisingly light in weight. If your adding a couterpoise (and I did mine at ground level) prepare for a balancing act that will amaze and entertain friends and neighbors for a number of hours.

There were three disturbing flaws.....

1. The PL-259 connector at the feedpoint was CHEAPLY constructed. A piece of poorly insulated aluminum stranded wire was used from the connector to the screw connecting to the anntenna. The wire had green corrosion underneath the clear plastic insulation. I replaced this with solid copper covered with heatshrink. Moving back my assembly schedule a whole day, I was irritated by this lack of attention to the most vital link in the antenna system.

2. The RG-8 matching section was CHEAp coax also! UnBElieeeevaBLE! The connectors pulled off the coax after it was hoisted aloft. I found corrosion in this,also. HEAY!! this ones been sitting around for awhile?!?

3. The clamps on the couterpoise (CPX - CPK?), two of them where not long enough to fit around the lower base. Again ... searching through my spare junk parts saved the day.

I took a piece of mast section and set into the groud. In my location this is very easy because the ground is soft. I attached the antenna to this for preliminary tuning. However, being a multiband it takes alot of tweeking to get it just right.

Using an AEA HF-121 SWR analyzer (slick gizmo!). I tuned the coils. The lower the band freq. the sharper the Q. So at 40m and 80m you better plan what part you want to work.(i.e. cw or phone). I noticed that 160m had a 2.4:1 spot. O.K. three hours later, IT's FINALLY tuned... RIGHT ?!!

Well, with the help of my 6'2" son, we got it up abt. 30 feet. Being dark,I lugged myself up to my attic-shack and check'd the VSWR. OH! NO!. Out of tune. The instructions do say this will happen, so it came as no suprise.(It was more out of tune than led to believe...).

I have a friend that works for a sign company. A case of beer and also because he was just a very kind HAM. I used a 40' bucket truck to hoist myself up to RETUNE the three coils. Three(3) hours later this was done. Once I got the bucket out of the way and checked again...what do you know... OUT of tune. I won't go on any longer with this part, but after much trail and error. I did get it to meet their published spec.s . But... BUT..think about what I went through!!!!. And those LITTLE things that can turn a customer OFF quickly.

All the tuning problems might be avoided if ...

1. You ground mount the HF6v/9V-X (no guarentees from me)
2. Buy a GAP,R7 or make your own antenna

This only reflects my personnal experience and opinion and is not intended to advertize for any commercial ventures. I usually work

dipoles and design my own compact loops. I have limited space, so that's why I tried the vertical. I, also, teach upgrade courses and earn a living in RANGE OPERATIONS/MOBILE FIELD ENGINEERING.

DEFINITION: VERTICAL ANTENNA- an antenna that radiates POORLY in all directions.

de RICH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Jim Kortge, NU8N" <jokortge@tir.com>
Subject: [4987] Cascade on 40/17
Message-ID: <9603010030.AA10192@lisp.com>

This is to Mike Herr, WA6ARA
And my apologies to the qrp-1 gang,
but everything else I've tried has bounced.

Hi Mike....I tried to send you something the other day
and it bounced. I hope this one gets through.

I think I finally have the correct combination of
capacitors to tame the VFO, so that it doesn't
drift. I don't know what your experience has
been to date on 40, but my rig was walking up the
band as I was yakking. It seemed to move about
100 Hz per transmission, and I'd have to retune
on the other guy when he came back.

Anyway, I've been experimenting with various combinations
of NPO and N750 capacitors, and it seems to stay put
quite well. As I also mentioned, I redid the various
capacitors in the VFO to optimize it for the two bands, e.g.
150 KHz on 40 and 60 KHz on 17. While it may be a bit shy
or long of those targets, it is much better than it was.
I haven't done the final calibration yet on both bands to
know how well it tracks to the desired, but I'm sure it
is within a few KHz at the very worst.

Here are the values that I currently have installed.
Note that all capacitors are NPO unless otherwise
specified.

L1 - As specified, no changes, and inductance not measured.

C17 - Extra 10 pF across this.
 C21 - 47 pF N750 paralleled by 18 pF.
 C22 - 56 pF paralleled by 22 pF.
 C25 - Original 100 pF paralleled by 47 pF.
 C34 - Extra 220 pF paralleled by 10 pF across this.

Align by putting in the 17 meter module, closing the plates on the main tuning capacitor, and adjust C17 for 18.110 MHz. Put in the 40 meter module, open up the tuning capacitor to wide open, and adjust C34 for 7.150 MHz. You may have to go between the two adjustments a couple of times to get everything 'on the money', since there is some interaction between the two settings.

That's it. Hope this makes it to you, and you try the changes out.

Any more progress on getting the power up on 17?

72....Jim

Jim Kortge, NU8N		BMHA, NorCal, QRP-L
jokortge@ttr.com	__o	Cascade 17/40 SSB
Fenton, MI	_'\<	Mizuho 17/40 SSB
.. .. .	(*)/(*)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
 From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@compuserve.com>
 Subject: [4960] DC Power Connectors
 Message-ID: <960229184012_75230.1405_HHB79-1@CompuServe.COM>

Robert Williams writes as follows--

>If there is anyone getting ready to place a Mouser order.... Please let
 >me know. I need to buy two coaxial power plugs that they carry. I would
 >be willing to send a check and a SASE to cover their cost. Please E-Mail
 >if you can help me out and include my two items in your order.

I can help, but I'd rather offer an alternative and open a discussion on power connection. I know if it's been done to death then it was long enough ago that some newer List members might find it useful.

First, I HATE coax power connectors, even when they are supplied with kits. There are two major problems with them. First, the ground connection is

often unreliable, meaning you have to wiggle them to get the power on and it can drop out at any time, even in the middle of QS0.

Second, the way they are designed means it is possible for the center conductor to contact the grounded edge when you are inserting it. A lot of extra care inserting the plug, or a lot of blown fuses. Take your pick.

My solution-- replace the socket with a grommet (one of RS's grommets will go straight into the panel hole for the coax socket). Replace the wires from the board to the socket with a pigtail lead that goes through the grommet to an in-line polarized connector. Tie an electricians knot on the inside for strain relief.

The grommets: RS 64-3025, assortment of 35 for \$1.49.

The inline connectors I use are pin-and-shell Molex types. The relevant RS part numbers are 274-222 (\$.99) for a SET of male and female shells and pins. For 20A circuits, use 274-151 (male) AND 274-154 female, one of each at \$.99 each. Mouser has them, but they use separate part numbers for male and female pins, male and female shells, and unless you want a lot of them it's a lot easier to buy the sets from RS.

When you get them you will see that there are LOTS of ways to wire them up. For example, you can put + or - on the pointed side, male pins in either the male or female shell, or one of each!

There are two approaches, you choose: either come up with some oddball configuration so nobody else can plug your gear in anywhere [g]. Or adopt a standard so any of your gear can plug into any of your power sources, and you can share gear with others in an emergency situation.. The standard I use is also used by local ARES, and may be more general, I don't know. Anyhow, here it is:

Positive (+) is always on the POINTED side of the connector.

Male pins in female shell half.

Female pins in male shell half.

Male shell (with female pins) on the equipment side, female shell (with male pins) on the supply side.

The pins are designed to be crimped, but I always solder them. Oh, and if you mess it up, you will find there is NO way to remove a pin from a shell, unless you have a special tool (RS 274-223 for the 12A ones, not listed for the 20A).

73/72

Marshall

AA0XI/VK5FN

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: mtmiller@fedex.com (MILLER/MIKE)
Subject: [4949] Easytrax question.
Message-ID: <199602291628.AA15827@gateway.fedex.com>

I've been playing around with Easytrax for a few days now and it seems pretty nice, but I can't figure out how to rotate a component. The version I downloaded didn't come with any documentation. If anyone knows how to rotate a component or block 90 degrees, please let me know.

Thanks in advance,
Mike T. Miller
ke4zaf

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [4959] Evolution of Kits Business
Message-ID: <M710726.001.ju5d0.1.960229180312Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBE/PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

As a (relatively) old-timer (44 years hamming), I'd like to throw in my couple of cents worth on the topic.

Before WW2, radio and any other form of electronics was almost a black art to the man in the street. Their world at that time had relatively little electronic content.

During WW2, electronics evolved very rapidly in many directions--radio, TV, microwave, industrial uses. After the war, people had an increased general awareness of "good things through electronics" and began to demand them. Heath and Knight took advantage of this, and since there were very few electronic products on the market (relative to today), building something yourself was an economical and practical way to obtain something you might not otherwise be able to. For many people this was their first personal, hands-on experience with anything electronic. That's why Heath and Knight had to create such detailed manuals.

Fast forward to today. Our kids grow up surrounding by electronic "things"--computers, television, RC models, microwave ovens, etc. We all have a greater awareness not only of electronics as a general concept, but of specific things

and their uses. Our personal skill sets are quite different from what they were for people just after WW2 when kit building began as a commercial venture.

Anyway, my rather rambling point is that, as a broad generalization, we probably don't need the degree of hand holding that the times required Heath to offer. So many of us earn our living in some way related to electronics that these skill sets seem just part of the landscape and we tend to take them for granted.

Thanks for the bandwidth.
72/73 BobT N6WG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: ar722@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Donald K.Philbin)
Subject: [4924] First contact...OK!
Message-ID: <199602291602.LAA15913@kanga.INS.CWRU.Edu>

Hot Dog! My first contact with my homebrewed "Ugly Weekender" transceiver!

Running a whopping 950 milli micro mega watts I made an OK contact (with the former Czechoslovakia!).. living in Denmark I do have a bit of an advantage.. but at this power level I take whatever I can get!

The shortwave stations are really overloading my receivers front end! I am using a 4-pole RC active filter in the audio line, and it helps, but I need something before the mixer.

I was thinking of using the input filtering that G3RJV (Rev Dobbs) uses in the front end of the sudden receiver (a top coupled double tuned circuit) but the inductor values are not listed on the schematic. The circuit uses Toko coils and I would have to order a ton of them from England just to cover my shipping costs!

I found a reference to such a filter the "7.0 to 7.2 L3 " job listed in table 2 on page 238 of Solid State design for the Radio Amateur but I left my copy of this book in California when I came to Denmark and none of my ham friends has a copy..

Help!

Thanks..
D.K. Philbin
OZ2DKP & KD6TK
ar722@cleveland.freenet.edu

--

D.K. Philbin, Fulbright Instructor
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Brian Jones" <brian_jones@uk.ibm.com>
Subject: [4916] First QRP kit
Message-ID: <199602291527.KAA48224@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

First QRP Kit,

I would like to get started in QRP and build my first kit.
Preferably 20m but open to suggestions.

Anyone care to recommend something. I can solder OK and my eyes are good for pretty fine tracks but my electronics skill level is pretty thin (just what I learned for the UK and US Extra calls). I've got limited tools (good multimeter, old 'scope which I am very inexperienced at using).

What I'm looking for is a rig which will provide a good learning experience and will perform pretty good when I (eventually) get it working. Something moderately complex but with good instructions and not requiring sophisticated tools for alignment would be ideal.

I'm likely to be over stateside in a couple of weeks so US kits are fine (I can mail order from UK and have it waiting in my hotel - if I remember to pack my 120v iron I can have it half built before I return!).

Brian - G0UKB - KB8YKJ

Brian Jones
Java Technology Centre
HURSLEY MP 146 Ext 246896 (+44 1962 816896)
BEJONES AT WINVMD brian_jones@uk.ibm.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [4958] forms
Message-ID: <8FA5570101@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

This has little to do with qrp but I need help. I have been using

4x6 cards that come with the perf feed for my daisy wheel printer as cards I use in lab tests, etc. I need some and my former supplier can only get me a case of 5000 cards for a minimum purchase. I do not plan to teach for the next 125 years so am asking this group if you know where I can get a smaller supply--let's say 500 cards??

Thanks much.

72 de WB9NLZ

P.S.--Am ordering my 49er parts today. I got the board a week ago. See you on 40.

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [4919] Fox & 40-9er
Message-ID: <199602291545.IAA17027@usr2.primenet.com>

Tough listening for the Fox last night, so spent most of the two hours fitting the 40-9er into the Altoids tin. Not much room to spare in there. Anyway, no Fox heard, but lots of others, and by gosh the 40-9er picked some sigs up. Haven't fooled with the transmit side yet...but I'm confident that it'll come up OK. This is a fun project.

72/73, de Roger AA7QY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: David Johnson <djohnson@acpub.duke.edu>
Subject: [4961] Fox Report for Feb 28
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960229132806.9371B-100000@bio3.acpub.duke.edu>

Gang:

The Feb 28 Fox Hunt was fun, but not too productive in terms of number of contacts. I started out with one watt, but switched to five watts after a few minutes. I was running the

Kenwood TS-50 to my trusty Lew McCoy dipole (the one that fits between the trees), fed with ladder line to the MFJ-901B tuner (and OHR WM-1) in the shack.

I only worked 1.5 h instead of 2, as I was just coming off a bout with food poisoning the day before, and was easily worn out. Sorry about that, but it was kinda late to get a replacement, and I did want to give it a go.

Anyways, I called and called, and listened and listened, and only have 5 contacts in the log. There were a few stations in there VERY weak that I tried to pull out, and couldn't.

All contacts were within about 1 kHz of 7040 (tried to make some on the Novice segment freq, but no success).

So thanks to six brave souls, and others for trying. Here is the meager log:

Call	S	R
W3PM	569	339?
K5UP	559	449 Glen ?
W6ZH	229	429 Pete
KK5RO	339	339
N6MLU	229	449
WA2BMQ	589	569 Norm, in Naples, FL, 60W random wire ant

OK, ok, I did rag chew a bit with Norm, and encourage him to try QRP. He said he does QRP when the band is quiet!

Not too bad of conditions on 7040, except for occasional digital drivel and sideband splatter (hey, I was just trying to be poetic there, ok, no badness intended. I work pactor and ssb, too!).

Best wishes to all QRPers!

72,

Dave

David W. Johnson	QRP ARCI 6546
Amateur Extra WA4NID. Low power enthusiast!	G-QRP 4864
email: djohnson@acpub.duke.edu	NorCal 355

packet: WA4NID@KB4WGA.#DUR.NC.USA.NOAM TSRAC 3482

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [4915] FS:MFJ 9030
Message-ID: <9602291526.AA09255@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Hi, I have for sale an MFJ 9030 QRP Transceiver.
5W, Built in speaker.

\$100.00 shipped US.
Excellent condition.
Box, Manuals.

Terms: Ship on receipt of a Money order.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [4982] Great CW
Message-ID: <14134.825632132@safety.ics.uci.edu>

Gee-whiz, I had the best CW ragchew in years the other evening. I was up on 40 CW with our new club station here at UC Irvine, demonstrating CW for the guys. Landed a QSO with a YL in Texas, Lea, AB5TY. I can't usually go comfortably at 30 wpm plus, but her spacing and well placed pauses were amazing in the effect that they had on my receiving ability. I really had a nice QSO with her and felt freer to ragchew and not get off so fast. We made lots of jokes and it was pleasurable. I had to read off the translation for the rest of the guys, I don't copy on to paper, but it was easy. Some of the 15 wpm guys said they could copy some of it, and they were encouraged! This woman claimed that there were many other YL's out there on CW, and all I had to do was listen harder. I will.

Clark
WA3JPG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Mel Evans <101366.3072@compuserve.com>
Subject: [4975] Heath demise debate
Message-ID: <960229213308_101366.3072_JHP143-1@CompuServe.COM>

Hi gang,

Current figures now 78 to 2 in favour of improved kit manuals. Both not in favour were concerned about increased costs, and were experienced constructors.

What a stirring of stumps this subject has caused, and it wasn't even me that started it really.

I've had some feedback from kit suppliers, mostly to ask what you seem to want in the way of improvements, ssssssssssssssoooooooooooo if you've got any ideas, why don't you let them know? I can't do much about it, cos I don't write the manuals. I do do some technical authoring, and maybe if I was approached nicely.....?

72 and 73 de Mel
GM6JAG, EDINBURGH, Scotland U.K.

"Lang may yer lum reek"

Braid Scots greeting, "Long may your fire have fuel to produce smoke from your chimney".

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [4952] Heath HW9 (slow) progress
Message-ID: <960229114211 234259141@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Hi folks-

Have turned my attention to the densely packed T/R board. Have spent two evenings installing the taped (small, radial lead components like resistors and diodes) on the board. 150 parts later, the taped components are finished, and the board looks like I've barely made a dent in it.

If you're keeping score, 5 nights of work, and I am not across the 50 yard line yet. Heath: 7, Rob: Zip.

73,

Rob

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: AC6JA@aol.com
Subject: [4993] help
Message-ID: <960229220255_157045207@emout07.mail.aol.com>

for some reason i'm not getting any more qrp-1 messages. any ideas? if i inadvertently got dropped from the newsgroup, please resubscribe me.
thanks!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [4990] Line isolators for feedlines
Message-ID: <n1386498584.38028@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

There was a query on whether this might be a good addition to the feedline to a vertical.

Well, whether it is going to help TVI depends on whether the TVI is caused by RF on the outside of the coax.

RF belongs on the inside of the shield, between that and the center conductor, ONLY. With good coax this is what you get. With leaky coax, (less than 95% shield coverage), well, who can say? Sometimes a mis match at the antenna may induce outside the shield RF.

By the way, as computer networks convert over to fiber optic cable, there is a lot of fine coax becoming surplus with shield braid and foil shield in the cables of Ethernet type. It is great 50 ohm cable.

But, back to the question of finding out what is on the outside of your coax? There is a new RF current clamp on meter from Palomar that looks interesting, but the easy way to see if you have a problem with outside shield currents is to coil up a few turns, up to 6 or so of your feed coax, and see what that does to your TVI. You may have to try more or less turns, and place the "cable choke" as this is called at various locations along the feedline to see the best effect. If the feedline goes up a pole to the elevated type of vertical antenna, you might put a coil of coax right at the coax connection to the base of the vertical. Another likely spot is just before the coax enters the house.

A line isolator is just a ferrite bead cable choke device and you can get ferrite from Amidon to make your own custom tailored to your situation, but I

would try the coiled coax first to see if that is the path of interference.

But if you have TVI, I would also look for inside the house paths like through the power lines, (operate rig temporarily on batteries to evaluate this,) or through the shield of the Cable TV incoming coax. (Here you connect 75 to 300 ohm baluns back to back, the two 300 ohm sides together, [if truly balanced non DC contact to the shield types], to break the continuity of the TV coax shield). Fundamental overload of the sets in the house may be the problem, or the TV might be one of the older types designed for outside antenna use, and therefore more sensitive to RF.

The AC cord of the TV may benefit from a ferrite choke with the cord wrapped around it.

Now it may make the vertical function as a better antenna to add quarter wave radials to it, as the type the poster had does not have anything but short radials, that don't give the full effect (radiation efficiency) a true 1/4 wave counterpoise or radial set offers.

Any vertical that does not have a counter poise, or radials; if of the short or quarter wave vertical class; will benefit by the added radials.

All those loading torroids just electrically match the antenna to a 50 ohm coax on all bands, and do not add to your radiation efficiency. More metal does. The cheap way to get more metal in the antenna is hook up wire for radials.

If you elevate the vertical, you can easily string the radials above head height, and as a bonus create a nice trellis for climbing plants over your yard. That way, (an elevated vertical), you don't have to get down on your tired knees to plant radials in the grass. But, we have a little winter left, so if you are tied to a ground mount vertical, put lots of hook up wire out from the base on top of the cold barren ground, and stake the ends down tight so when the grass grows in the Spring, the radials are covered. Set your mower to cut a little higher and you are in business. The longer grass, by the way, will keep the soil around the radials more moist and that makes a better conductor of the ground. Lowers your watering bill, too. See, you save money all around. ---And more time for hamming.

IF you are space limited, the quarter wave counterpoises don't have to run straight out from the antenna. They work best that way, but you can coil them in a spiral to fit the area you have. Snake them along the edge of the gables of the roof. Whatever. Number 16 wire for QRO, and smaller is fine for QRP. Used computer flat cables could be cut into various lengths on individual wires for easy to install multi band radials. Rainbow cable around the edge of the patio roof might even make a hit with the home decorator.

Even if you have a commercial vertical you may find ways to improve its performance or make your installation co exist with the TV generation; hope

some of this helps that way!
72, Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: ahunter <ahunter@kcsys.com>
Subject: [4920] LM380N-8
Message-ID: <01BB067A.5EE281A0@ts1p9.inland.net>

Thanks for all the responses to my LM380N-8 request, and a special thanks to Wayne for his info on substituting the LM386 for the LM380.

72/73

Al

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: V\$BCIESLAK@qtiworld.com
Subject: [4907] mailing qsl cards Ouch!!
Message-ID: <01I1S1XIFVKY00F1S5@hub.qgraph.com>

I decided to catch up on my paper work last night and thought I would mail out the qsl replies that I owed. Ouch! No I have to go negotiate a home equity loan for the postage.

Has anyone on the group ever considered starting a QRP-L QSL buro? I remember there used to be one for US calls but it got to be too much for the operators to handle. Maybe we should start one for US to US QSO's. We'll let the League handle our DX stuff. It could bolster some of these 5 band WAS qrp projects We've been reading about.

I would even teeter on the edge of volunteering to run it the first year as an experiment.

Brian AE9K

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "C. H. McClure" <hmccclure@access.digex.net>
Subject: [4902] Mil Spec QRP Rigs
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960229002113.18899A-1000000@access4.digex.net>

An associate has a number of Delco 5300B radios. These "Mil Spec QRP rigs", i.e. "special forces" or "spy" radios, were manufactured in the late '60s and are housed in lunch box size (assuming you have a fairly generous lunch) Zero aluminum water tight cases. They originally included an antenna kit consisting of a couple of weights, two reels of wire with length marked in terms of frequency, and a reel of 50(?) ohm twinlead, all neatly wound on what appears to be 8mm olive drab film reels and fitted canvas pouch.

Units contain 4-channel transmitter and receiver, some kind of antenna tuner, front-panel-accessible battery compartment and a miniature key on the front panel. Frequency range seems to be from 2.2 MHz to 8 MHz. All very, very cute. Neither of us know anything about the rigs, but output transistors seem to be 1 or 2 2N2782s. They also have a Collins mechanical filter and a ceramic filter, presumably paired with the front panel BW switch (0.5 and 3 kHz ?).

I'm not sure how many he has, but unfortunately the drawn aluminum Zero cases were stolen from some of the units while in storage. Must not have been hams since they left the radios! Some others are still in the box, with case and antenna pouch.

Several years ago, I recall seeing a ham magazine article about this type of behind-the-lines radios, but can't remember in what magazine or when. I think one of the two radios discussed in the article was the Delco 5300. Does anyone recall anything of this article or any other?

Does anyone have a manual available for sale or copying?

Does anyone have a good idea of the market price for these radios?

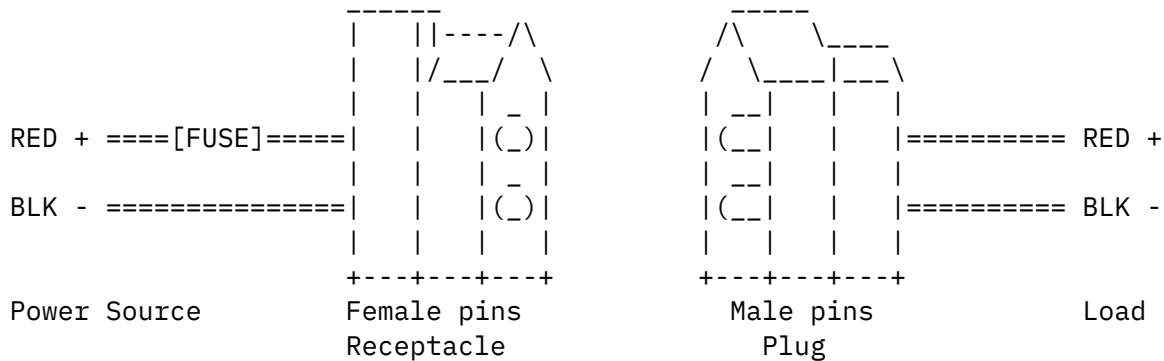
Thanks

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: n1ist@netcom.com (Michael L. Ardai)
Subject: [4963] Molex power connectors
Message-ID: <199602291906.LAA21215@netcom5.netcom.com>

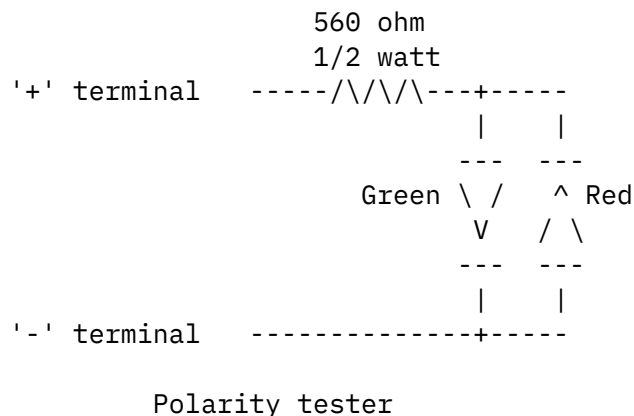
This is the ARRL/ARES standard power connector configuration:

The receptacle with female pins is on the cable connected to the power source (battery, power supply, cigarette lighter plug). The plug with male pins is used on cables that are connected to loads (either hardwired or via some non-standard connector). (The receptacle is the connector that fits inside

the plug and has the pins closely surrounded by plastic; the plug is more of a shell, with the two pins exposed inside.) In all cases, the triangular end of the connector is the positive end.



You may also want to make up a polarity tester if you plan to use anyone else's supply or battery:



For more info, see my article in the August 1993 QST, p. 50
/mike

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Kevin Anderson <anderson@ncrsun9.ncr.usace.army.mil>
Subject: [4978] newbies (was re:heath demise)
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960229155406.756A-1000000@ncrsun9>

I've been following the Heath Demise/manuals thread from its original post with great interest. I beg your indulgence with respect to one issue: folks new(er) to the hobby.

One nice thing about Heath manuals as pointed out in one post was Bill and Ted Parent's opportunity to build their first kit. The detailed instructions, including troubleshooting, really helped.

Now think about this list.

- Jim's statistics shows some mighty experienced (at least highly licensed) folks that read this list.
- reading your posts imply quite a few folks who are knowledgeable about circuits, design principles, and troubleshooting
- many folks/kits today seemed to be already expected to own the frequency counter, oscilloscope, etc., test and alignment gear (which I don't own yet...)

For the newbie to kit building, lack of helpful instructions, or nearby elmers or test equipment, can still be a disincentive/problem to many. Heath may have overkilled their manuals, but they also served a market, a market that is little served today. I read QRP Quarterly and QRPP, but I'm still learning how to understand/apply half of what's there. What is obvious to many of you as to how a circuit works or what you can tweek is not obvious to me.

I may be way off base, but thank you considering this viewpoint as well. And don't get me wrong, I am very thankful that these folks are designing/kitting radios today.

Cheers/72/73. Kevin, KB9IUA

Kevin L. Anderson, CENCR-PD-W, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District Office, Planning Div.-Waterway Systems
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004, USA phone:(309) 794-5586
e-mail: anderson@ncrsun1.ncr.usace.army.mil

Opinions expressed here are my own and do not represent the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Federal Government.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: ae4ic@nr.infi.net (BOB KELLOGG)
Subject: [4979] NW8020
Message-ID: <199602292225.RAA07571@mh004.infi.net>

Gang,

Can you stand one more report on the NW8020?

Although the rig worked, I was not pleased with a couple of details. First, it seemed to receive too many double sideband signals. This problem was solved by adding a 33pf capacitor in parallel with C20, the BFO trimmer.

Moving the BFO frequency put the transmit oscillator out of range for C54, the xmit oscillator trimmer. The solution to this problem was adding 33pf in parallel with C54 -- and changing it from 30pf to 75pf. Roy Gregson sent me a different series inductance, L3, however, and with 18uh choke instead of 12uh, I could use the original C54.

Roy said he'd had a problem with some crystals that were not well matched, and evidently I had a couple of them. I believe he said he was going to use a wider range trimmer and check crystals in future kits, so that problem should be corrected.

Finally, I was not able to get expected the power output. Once the parasitics were under control, maximum power was in the 3-4 watt range. Roy sent me a new PA transistor to replace the one robbed from my CB, and like *magic* the maximum output increased to 7 watts! Isn't it interesting that both the 2SC1679 (7 watts), and the 2SC1609 (4 watts) are replaced by the NTE 235.

I plan to add an RF gain control in front of the first NE602, and this will complete the 40 meter rig just the way I want it.

Id like to hear more about the NW8020 from you other guys that are building them. Am I the only one that had any problems, or am I the only one that has one on the air? (just kidding, I've heard about a couple that are on the air)

CUL,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC

Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: SYDV00A@prodigy.com (MR FLOYD E SMITHBERG)
Subject: [4996] NW8020
Message-ID: <013.02453605.SYDV00A@prodigy.com>

For other builders of the NW8020 who are having difficulty obtaining SS(single signal) without the VBW option(or with it) here is what I found after trying all the tweaking/alignment procedures and checking for the usual wiring/soldering errors.

I built a simple, untuned oscillator...run off 9V battery, removed all the xtals from the kit and checked them for match..listening to the beat on my TS850 and could easily read to less than 10Hz. They were spread over 400Hz..10X too much. The NC40A specs, my standard for comparison, claim their xtals are matched to +/- 20Hz.

I then ordered 20 xtals from Dig-Key (9.8304Mhz was closest they had to the 9.600 in the kit) and checked them. They also were spread over several hundred Hz but found 4 that matched within 30HZ. Put these in the filter and and of course changed the bfo and txo xtals, retuned to new IF and ..VOILA! Except for ear splitting signals I now had the SS I was looking for.

In the process also took the VBW and associated parts out...who needs double sideband in a cw rig? Removed Q9, now don't have all the loss in in the VBW to get the SS selectivity and still have lots of gain. And finally put in matching xfmr between U1 and filter...FT37-43 18t/4t. The receiver is still 'hot', quieter and has selectivity as good as the best.

My test methods may sound a bit crude as I don't have access to scope, counter or sig generator and I don't make any claims that this is the ultimate...I leave that to others with more knowledge and equipment. Just a typical, inquisitive ham who would rather tinker than operate. Good luck to others and hope this will be of some use to other NW8020 owners.

Have worked a number of DX and US stations with it and love it!

Floyd NQ7X.....Phoenix

PS. I sent this same info to Roy today via E-mail. We have corresponded about this and he offered to send me a loaner and fix it but told him I was having too much fun to spare it.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996

From: Mike Robinson <miker@cc.com>

Subject: [4986] OHR400

Message-ID: <9603010014.AA17858@voder.nsc.com>

Now that I've been using my OHR400 more, I've noticed some things about it.

When does the AGC kick in? I've had my ears blown out a few times while tuning around.

I've replaced the trimcap C134 with the new one sent by Dick, but I still get some warm up drift. Anyone else?

What a great filter! My FT890 doesn't come close to this kind of tight.

It sure is nice having that TUNE/OPERATE switch right up front.

```
=====
7.3 de Michael AA0UB      miker@cc.com      michael@frii.com
      http://www.frii.com/~michael
      QRP-L #126      Norcal #857      CQC #180
=====
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: KF2ZW@aol.com
Subject: [4992] QRP IS fun...!
Message-ID: <960229215856_157041330@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Well, it's been a fun AND interesting week. It all started last week (2/22) when my wife and I went to the hospital to deliver our third (and last) baby(a beautiful 9 lb 4 oz baby girl). For this one I took the rest of the week and this week off from work. Its really been nice, two kids away all day, and my wife and baby sleep alot, so there seems to be alot of time for ham radio.

I have been on the QRP-L for the last 3 or 4 weeks, I had a HW9 to sell and someone recommended I post it here. After receiving some tempting offers, and lots of interesting mail, I decided to keep the radio and put it back on the air. Finnaly got the time to set it up today and had a ball! Every time I went down to the shack I always seemed to make a nice contact. First was Bill WD8RTW on 40m around lunch time, we were having a pretty good QS0 until I had to cut it short to have lunch with my wife. Next was Sam , S51W0, in Slovenia, nice QS0 there to. He remembered me from a previous QS0, said the HW9 sounded GREAT and gave me a 5-6-9 report! The last two were simply DX Q's (contest style), EA9KB in Ceuta & Melil, and DK4PL in Germany. Tried to start a QS0 and got the standard 5nn es TU, 73 es QRZ..... but they were good contacts anyway.

All in all I'm glad I kept the radio. I always had fun with it up at camp with a campfire, picnic table, and a gellcell, I'm sure i would have missed it this summer. So, thats my side of it. Thanks for the bandwidth and all that stuff.

72(must be a QRP thing)/73

Scott, KF2ZW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [4970] QRP\DX\SUNSPOTS,a modest beginning
Message-ID: <199602291956.0AA72731@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello Gang,

I am surprized by the totals I just found in my log. I have been a ham since June 91, and started QRP a little over a year ago. The time spent between 91 and 94 was in upgrading my license and building my staiton. So towards the end of 94 I met with a group of hams at a local Burger King for a show and tell QRP session. At the time I was pretty much convinced that if my radio had a hundered watts, then I should use a hundered watts.

My curiosity was piqued one day when, after a very nice rag chew with a DX station, I noticed the rig was set to 10 watts. I had tuned up with 10, and forgot to turn up the power. The guys told me of the fun and excitement they had working DX with just a few watts. They had me interested enough to ask them to pop the hood on a few rigs, and I must say, I thought even I could build one.(All the time remembering the disaster of being 14 and trying to do the same thing).

So here we are, at the bottom of the sun cycle, and just about a year later. I have 52 countries worked 7 confirmed with 5 watts or less. Turkey being my favorite because I worked it with a 40/40 rig that I built,and adjusted to a 1 watt output.

I am and occasional DX'er,contester,never send in a log, and use contests to brush up on my CW skill. The mail man just brought me a nice picture Cayman Is. card. HA-CHA-CHA!!!

72 es 73

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gw1.com>
Subject: [4913] Questions
Message-ID: <199602291501.AA02734@gp-ipc54.gw1.com>

Morning,

I have a couple of quick questions. I have a Compaq LTE 286 notebook computer and no manual. Can someone tell me if there is a car cord adapter available for it or if I could modify one to fit (wiring, volts, etc). also there is a 1/8" phone jack on the back - is this for power or is this suppose to be a headset plug-in?

(HAM related and QRP related) Still no contacts on 40M novice BUT I believe its me ;^). My son has 8 (from California to Alabama, were just outside of Denver Colorado). Ive been working on my listening and trying to jump in but so far no luck. Any way Tuesday night Feb 26 (local) I copied almost all of a QS0 between Robin KB0VRC in Lubbock, TX on her Ten Tec and G5RV. She was RST 579 in colorado. Copied almost all of her side of the QS0. The other half was RST 228 and Im sure the call was KC50PZ (copied both from the sender and Robin). My question is Where/Who is KC50PZ, or did I really mess up?

Thanks

de KB0ROL, Brad QTH Aurora, CO

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [4991] RF chokes
Message-ID: <n1386496423.66715@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Now here is a new thread.

Have the builders ever noticed how little the ARRL handbook says about the design of effective RF chokes? Ever wanted to roll your own, and it did not work well?

I have been revisting the areas of component selection, for building from

scratch.

There seems to be a variety of opinion on what an RF choke is supposed to be, from the standpoint of it being a coil.

Now we all agree, it is put in series to block RF from say a DC power feed, or elevate a point above ground RF wise, while still DC grounding the antenna, for example. But how do you select the turns to put on the thing?

I have heard a well known designer say in a forum the words that the choke should resonate BELOW the band you are transmitting in.

Now a number of years ago I had the good fortune to have access and unlimited use of two of the nicest RF instruments HP ever sold, the Vector Impedance meters. These jewels would tell you the total impedance of a antenna, or coil, or capacitor, and whether it was acting as an inductor, capacitor or resonant. Below self resonance, a coil would have Inductive reactance. At resonance, it would go through zero degrees and then behave above self resonance as a capacitor.

That seems counter to what you want an RF choke to do in band, for then it would look in the band of interest like a capacitor coupling RF into the DC power or whatever. Perhaps chokes are sometimes just supposed to act like coils tuned with the stray capacitance, just a low Q inductor.

Another paper described a simple transmitter with a one transistor oscillator, and it had one RF choke, and in that circuit it was stated the RF choke should resonate "with the stray capacitance of the circuit" in the band the oscillator was active.

Looking up Doug DeMaws "Solid State Design"; RF Choke, or choke, is not in the index of my edition. But in the text early in the discussion of RF amplifier design, there is the classic RF blocking choke on the DC power feed to the collector, and DeMaw makes the reasonable statement that the Reactance of the choke at the band of interest should be 5 to 10 times the impedance of the load you are feeding the amplifier into. And I take that to mean "INDUCTIVE REACTANCE".

I have not been able to buy Haywards book yet, (they were out of stock when I called) so does anyone have his "RF Design" and what does it say if anything about how to design RF Chokes?

Luckily, the Prototype kit for ferrite beads and chokes simplifies life and you look up what color bead goes with what frequency band!

I guess I am trying to affirm my understanding of the basic rule of thumb for coupling RF between two points or decoupling it.

If you want to couple it, the reactance of the bypass capacitor or coupling

capacitor should be up to one tenth the impedance of the circuit of origin or load. In other words it is a lower opposition path to the RF.

If you want to block it, the choke reactance should be 4, 5, or 10 times the circuit or load impedance.

And incidentally, since we visited with Litz wire this week, was it not chosen for tube RF chokes even used in higher frequency circuits, to avoid sharp resonance in those chokes, to make them effective over many bands?

Perhaps based on L. B.'s comments, the effectiveness of the Litz wire these chokes were wound with was only up to 160M, and then they were simply like wire to 10M.

The chokes I am describing were "Pi" wound, with little groups of many turns along the length of the choke. A "universal" value seemed to be 2.5 mh blocking RF from the plate DC feed wire to the B plus supply.

Comments please?
72, Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Brad Mugleston <bmug@gw1.com>
Subject: [4914] Sloppy Code
Message-ID: <199602291514.AA02758@gp-ipc54.gw1.com>

I just caught up on my digest reading. Interesting comments re sloppy code work. Just thought Id throw in my 2 cents worth.

Im a tech+. Probably never would have gotten into Ham if it wouldn't have been the no code way (Always wanted to but the code was too hard, not enough time and no real incentive other than some desire). Well now I have the code, at least good enough to pass the 5wpm test and Im hooked. Still very little time but when I do have some I can practice and try to make contacts. The written exams dont see to be a factor in my life (its easier to haul a book out and study for 10 to 15 min than practice the code when your waiting on an appointment). When I get to the point I can pass the 13wpm. I will be the poor sender on the General bands (novice bands are have too much noise). I will get better if someone will work me. If you only work bad fists on the novice bands, Ill never get any better. I know my --. --. may be --. --. some times but I won't get any better if no one calls me back. Ask me what --. is suppose to be or suggest that --. should be --. but DONT spi!
n the dial PLEASE. TNX

de KB0ROL QTH Aurora, CO rig 40M OHR Explorer II at 2.3W, antenna delta loop at 18' K

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net (George Gingell)
Subject: [4973] SMD
Message-ID: <1996Feb29.162244.14611@abs.net>

G3rjv@gqrp.demon.co.uk

Hi George,

Just a short note. It looks like there is a good chance that I will be able to make it to Dayton this year. I would be glad to spend a few hours helping out at the G-QRP Booth. Put me down as a part time employee.

The topic of SMD has arisen again here on the QRP-L list. I wonder if you might be able to tell us what happened to Bill Mooney and Blue Rose Electronics.

I heard a rumor that he was out of business. Is that true? His catalog was a virtual storehouse of information on SMD. I still have a small stock of SMD materials which I purchased from him. I even made my own version of his SMD hold down jig. (I made mine out of copper plumbing pipe and parts from the local model hobby store). I think I might have an unbuilt SMD VFO KIT from him.

One of the most impressive ideas that I ever saw came from him. He gave away sample packets with pretinned SMD PCB's and Fallout components for use as soldering practice kits. The PCB's were a batch that were made incorrectly for a project (Reverse image) and the parts were factory fallouts (Some were good, but many were unmarked). For Practice, who cares. I have also used re-cycled SMD parts from castoff Consumer Products. The one thing that many forget about, is to use the correct solder 37/63 is one of the best. I bought a big roll myself. Radio Shack also had some small rolls at one time.

They also stock assorted packages of resistors. There are a few suppliers over here that sell SMD, but nowhere have I seen anyone who offered the Prices and Selection which was offered by Blue Rose Electronics.

please cc your reply to QRP-L@lehigh.edu

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. Danny Gingell, K3TKS@bbs.abs.net

--

George Gingell, user of the UniBoard System @ abs.net
E-Mail: George.Gingell@bbs.abs.net
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Todd Nichols <nichols@rtp.ericsson.se>
Subject: [4923] SMT connectors
Message-ID: <199602291547.KAA16815@sunmgc2.rtp.ericsson.se>

Sometimes I just get too caught up in my job and can't see the forest for the trees.

Industry has had available for some time a variety of SMT coaxial connectors including OSX (used generally on GPS receivers) and some really tiny snap-on ones. These are good up to 6 GHz or so (that will even do for some of us microwave types, at least on the low end :-); although they are TINY. They are meant for RG-316 or (shudder) RG-174, or semi-rigid coax. I was bemoaning the lack of SMT BNC's earlier. Well, if one can order these from someone like Pennstock, and one can stomach the expense (OSX connectors, for example, are about \$11 each), and one can change one's paradigm to be near the antenna's feedpoint so that using RG-174 is not a problem (or, heck, go whole hawg and use RG-316! To heck with the cost! :-), then the tiny connector problem is solved.

Todd

Todd Nichols KB0HQU Ericsson Inc. (919) 685-2597
nichols@rtp.ericsson.se Research Triangle Park, NC
"Ensign, set a new course. There's coffee in that nebula!" - Capt. Janeway

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [4981] todays date
Message-ID: <199602292241.AA04765@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Anybody notice that all qrp-1 mail arriving today has
01 March as the date?
--cc

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Bob_Tellefsen-CNSE97@email.mot.com
Subject: [4974] TOKO coils
Message-ID: <M7111150.001.k3980.1.960229211955Z.CC-MAIL*/OU=LMPCC10/OU=ILBE/
PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/@MHS>

DIGIKEY seems to be the only supplier of TOKO coils and inductors. Does anyone know of an alternate source that might not have the \$25 minimum order charge?

Thanks,
BobT N6WG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [4962] tolerance
Message-ID: <199602291847.AA04490@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

QRP'ers,

When the discussion regarding sloppy fists started, I thought some of the opinions were a little intense and some were intolerant. Then I noticed that they mostly shifted toward the tolerant. Since I have not had time to develop my fist, I was glad opinion shifted toward the tolerant. Then, last night, while seeking that wily wooly creature, I spent time listening from 7035 to 7045. I heard things on there I have never heard before. I heard things that I could not copy. (repeat) could NOT copy. Now this presents a problem. I normally like to think of myself as a tolerant person.

Regards and 72,
Charles Cashion
KC5SNU/AE

--

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: wdzeares@rockdal.aud.alcatel.com
Subject: [4905] Wed Nite FOX
Message-ID: <9602291414.AA25422@aud.alcatel.com>

I heard W6ZH and N6ULU work the FOX but I never did hear the FOX. There were lots of QSOs going on near the freq. Maybe next time...
72/73 Dennis K3ETS

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [4910] Wed Nite FOX
Message-ID: <199602291501.AA04143@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

I just retuned my Explorer II so that it covers 7000 to 7070.
I tweaked my antenna so that it is resonant near 7040.

I was ready for the FOX!

First time since I have been re-licensed, I am ready!

0225Z 7040: Some digital dweebs think this is their freq!

0226Z 7039: Some guy is rattling along at 20+ wpm.

But at least he is using CW.

0229Z 7038: W6ZH (Pete Hoover) is sending his own call
(over and over and over...)

OH! He just sent " WA4NID de W6ZH k "

I listen *VERY* carefully for a few minutes.

I can occasionally hear WA4&%\$. Then I Hear *&ID.

Then something else.

Even if I cannot hear a complete call, it is re-assuring to know
that Pete caught that wily critter.

Charles

KC5SNU/AE

--

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996

From: Tim Pettibone <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>

Subject: [4971] What FOX Hunt?

Message-ID: <199602292000.NAA19022@NMSU.Edu>

What, did I overlook another FOX hunt night? Somehow I missed this one. Oh well, sounds like it was a tough go anyway. Looks like UP and maybe even ULU did it again. Hmmm, guess I won't win for the W5 area or the southwest region (including California). If I'd pay attention to my FOX hunt lists plastered on the walls, in my work calendar, and even on the refrigerator, I wouldn't miss these darned things!

72

Tim AB50U

Las Cruces, NM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996

From: Tim Pettibone <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>

Subject: [4985] YL CW with AB5TY

Message-ID: <199603010011.RAA08927@NMSU.Edu>

Clark:

Seems that the only time I get to talk with Lea is when I'm on vacation running QRP CW mobile! Worked her twice now when I was on the road. I think it has something to do with the time of day. Yes, her fist is wonderful and really easy to copy.

I also note that Lea is a member of FISTS. Wonder how many members of QRP-L also belong to FISTS? I'm FIST # 1954! Take care.

Tim AB5OU
Las Cruces, NM

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [4966] Re: 49er
Message-ID: <199602291920.MAA03822@usr3.primenet.com>

At 12:40 PM 2/29/96 EST, John Mckee wrote:

>
>Gang,
>
>What is the power output of a 40-9er with a power supply of 9v and 12v?
>
>Tnx,
>
>John WB4OFT
>

Just got the transmit side of mine checked out, and am getting 300 mw (on my OHR WM-1) from a fresh 9V battery. Haven't tried 12 yet.

72/73, de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [4903] Re: AZ scQRPions Meeting
Message-ID: <199602290609.XAA07498@usr3.primenet.com>

Dave, DAVEAF5U@aol.com, wrote:

>

> The scQRPions will meet on the 1st Saturday in March (March 2, 1996) in
[SNIP]

> Signs & Symptoms: Visual disturbances and/or uncoordinated eye movements,
> difficulty swallowing and "swollen tongue" sensation with excessive drooling,
> slurred speech, muscle twitching, and PAIN.

Yep, that sounds like me in the morning alright. :-)

If any of you are in the area and haven't had a chance to show
up to a ScQRPion meeting, I highly recommend it. Great bunch
of folks. Rumors of spontaneous outbreaks of biscuit-juggling
are unfounded.

Look forward to seeing everyone there!

ObFox: Didn't hear a peep from the Fox tonight, but I've got some
awful QRN (about S3 on my meter) from 7037 KHz on up. Either
the ionosphere is going nuts or one of my neighbors just bought one
of those %@\$#! touch-lamp RF jamming devices.... *sigh*

Cheers,

-Joe, KC7NEV, AZ ScQRPion #7
vole@primenet.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4933] Re: Congratulations !
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003702.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Zach:

Congratulations to you!!

And, that is a nice call....I was thinking that would be fine for CW!
I hope to hear you a lot on the 2 meter repeaters!!
Don't laugh, but this is my first message into Wirenet; do let me know
if you receive it!! I am very uncertain what I am doing.

Congrats again, and tell your Dad Hi.

73

John
W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * On a clear disk you can seek forever

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4936] Re: Congratulations !
Message-ID: <8BBB242.00110036FC.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Zach:

Congratulations to you!!
And, that is a nice call.....I was thinking that would be fine for CW!
I hope to hear you a lot on the 2 meter repeaters!!
Don't laugh, but this is my first message into Wirenet; do let me know
if you receive it!! I am very uncertain what I am doing.

Congrats again, and tell your Dad Hi.

73

John

W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * On a clear disk you can seek forever

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4937] Re: Congratulations !
Message-ID: <8BBB22B.00110036F8.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Zach:

Congratulations to you!!
And, that is a nice call.....I was thinking that would be fine for CW!
I hope to hear you a lot on the 2 meter repeaters!!
Don't laugh, but this is my first message into Wirenet; do let me know
if you receive it!! I am very uncertain what I am doing.

Congrats again, and tell your Dad Hi.

73

John

W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * On a clear disk you can seek forever

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <HDHETLAND@paccd.cc.ca.us>
Subject: [4968] Re: DC Power Connectors
Message-ID: <1B2BA0C655D@manage.paccd.cc.ca.us>

I agree with Marshall's (AA0XI) evaluation of the coaxial power connector. Besides the undependable electrical connection and the shorting of the conductors when being inserted they simply fall out when moving the equipment. I have been using a Sierra as an intermodulation sensor with a "sniff loop" in an effort to locate diode junctions in the W6BAB antenna farm and the power connector keeps falling out. (One of the intermod products of two broadcast stations falls on 7.040 MHz and is killing my fox hunting ability from W6BAB.)

The DC connector used on the Ten-Tec Scout works nicely with a release grip that holds it in place. It apparently is a Berg connector, polarized and similar in construction to those by Molex, but separates much more easily when the release levers are depressed on both sides of the connector body. The negative side of the connector is that I wiped the supply at the local vendor, and I have been waiting two months for more to arrive on special order. I have not seen this connector in any of the mail order catalogs, so I am not sure I want to invest in it.

73, Harvey, N6MM.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: mtmiller@fedex.com (MILLER/MIKE)
Subject: [4984] Re: Easytrax question.
Message-ID: <199602292334.AA25962@gateway.fedex.com>

Thanks for all the responses. BTW, the answer was "to rotate a component just press the space bar." And to think I pressed every other key on the keyboard looking for it. (Including all the shift, alt, ctrl combinations...) Just overlooked the space bar.

Thanks again,
Mike T. Miller
ke4zaf

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [4922] Re: First QRP kit
Message-ID: <199602291551.KAA84553@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>Received: from fidoi.CC.Lehigh.EDU [128.180.1.4] by OBIWAN.ENDOR.COM
> with SMTP-OpenVMS via TCP/IP; Thu, 29 Feb 1996 10:32 EDT
>Received: from fidoi.CC.Lehigh.EDU ([127.0.0.1]) by fidoi.CC.Lehigh.EDU
with SMTP id <40324-40431>; Thu, 29 Feb 1996 10:30:54 EST
>Message-Id: <199602291527.KAA48224@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
>Reply-To: brian_jones@uk.ibm.com
>Originator: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
>Sender: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
>Precedence: bulk

>First QRP Kit,
> I would like to get started in QRP and build my first kit.
>Preferably 20m but open to suggestions.
>
>Brian - G0UKB - KB8YKJ
>
>Brian Jones
>Java Technology Centre
>HURSLEY MP 146 Ext 246896 (+44 1962 816896)
>BEJONES AT WINVMD brian_jones@uk.ibm.com

Hello Brian,

The kit for you to start on is the Dave Benson, 40/40. 40 meters for \$40.00. As it turns out My 40/40 was more like a 40/250, when I put in a freq counter, built in keyer, RIT, and snappy Ten Tec box. The box cost me more than the radio did.

It is simple to put together and works well. I recomend this version(40 meters), over the other bands because of alignment problems. The rig was designed for 40 meter operation and adapted for other bands. Some hams have had no trouble at all with the other band version on this fine rig. But for a beginner ,stick to the 40 meter version.

You can get it from Dave Benson At Small Wonders Labs,
the address is:
Dave Benson NN1G
80 East Robbins Ave.
Newington, CT.06111
203-667-3536

de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)

Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: KFGlynn@aol.com
Subject: [4950] Re: First QRP kit
Message-ID: <960229113024_434629339@emout07.mail.aol.com>

Hello Brian,

I am in the process of making the Oak Hills Research Explorer II for 20
meters. About half-way there. I have heard nothing but very good reviews
for this rig. It cost me \$95.

GL 73 Kevin KB2TE0

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [4969] Re: Fox Report for Feb 28
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960229144139.23450B-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Thu, 29 Feb 1996, David Johnson wrote:

> is the meager log:
> Call S R
>

> N6MLU 229 449

Whoa! Could it be possible that the Great Stan (N6ULU) missed getting in the log this time?

73! =paul= wb8zjl (asleep last night with the flu)

ObFoxtrivia : Dave was the FOX the night of the Big Easy

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996

From: JC_Smith@designlink.com (JC Smith)

Subject: [4988] Re: Great CW

Message-ID: <65502.134458937@designlink.com>

>Gee-whiz, I had the best CW ragchew in years the other evening.
>I was up on 40 CW with our new club station here at UC Irvine,
>demonstrating CW for the guys. Landed a QSO with a YL in
>Texas, Lea, AB5TY. I can't usually go comfortably at 30 wpm
>plus, but her spacing and well placed pauses were amazing in the
>effect that they had on my receiving ability. I really had a nice
>QSO with her and felt freer to ragchew and not get off so fast.
>We made lots of jokes and it was pleasurable. I had to read off
>the translation for the rest of the guys, I don't copy on to
>paper, but it was easy. Some of the 15 wpm guys said they could
>copy some of it, and they were encouraged! This woman claimed
>that there were many other YL's out there on CW, and all I had
>to do was listen harder. I will.

>Clark

>WA3JPG

Don't ya just love QSOs like this! With all the coments about sloppy cw, I have to throw in my 2 cents worth. Something Clark says here, I think, is very important to good copy: "her spacing and well placed pauses" I couldn't agree more. We all (well, most of us) spaz out on the key once in a while, and I have no trouble with either a newcomer to cw or an oldtimer who's hand isn't as steady as it used to be, but something that drives me up the wall is the op who runs everything together with no pauses between words and sometimes not even between characters. -.-. -.-. doesn't bother me half as much as -.-.---.---.---.---.---.---.---.---.---.---. And one other thing, maybe, just maybe, there should be a 50 wpm speed limit on bug dit speed when character speed is 30 wpm or less. (Or, how about dah +20.) 72, JC - KC6EIJ

--

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Modem: (510) 933-9676; (510) 845-4187; (415) 241-9927. Voice: 930-6746
Internet Access: Via TCP/IP PORT: 3000; IP: designlink.com or 206.14.15.3
WEB: <http://www.designlink.com>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
Subject: [4904] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

At 18:28 02/28/96 EST, you wrote:

>Hi Patrick,

>

>I just had to jump in here when you made reference to the OHR Explorer II.
[...]

Geeze... sorry I picked on your favorite manual. If anyone thinks I said the Explorer manual was bad, please be assured I think it's a fine manual. I'm actually happy with manuals from most kit suppliers except Ramsey.

I just picked that book out of the air because it's the last kit I built. To me "adequate but terse" is a good thing. Adequate means it covers all the bases. Terse means it doesn't have the long descriptions you lampooned. I have no problem with the manual in question, it's everything I wanted and I wouldn't have been happier with more because then I'd be paying for things I don't want/need. I was just asking, in light of all the sighing and "misty water-colored memories" of Heathkit, how attractive the Heath-style manual would be if you had to pay for it?

I'll be the first to admit that I learned to build from Heathkit manuals. Things I learned building Heathkits as a kid have held me in good stead to these many years. I don't know where a kid could learn the same things today. But - hey - I've learned them. I don't want to read them over and over and over. To me a kit with a Heath-style manual would be a disaster because I'd doze off and burn myself on the soldering iron.

>>>==>PStJTT

=====
Patrick Taber
Principal Software Engineer

Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
Phone: (603) 880-0300

Logicraft Information Services Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063 Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4931] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <8BBB21E.00110036F5.uuout@vulcan.com>

```
PT> @FROM      :ptaber@logiccraft.com
PT> @UMSGID    :<199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
PT>From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU  Thu Feb 29 07:44:46 1996
PT>Reply-To: ptaber@logiccraft.com
PT>From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
PT>To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
PT>Date: Thu, 29 Feb 1996 08:42:38 EST
```

```
PT>At 18:28 02/28/96 EST, you wrote:
PT>>Hi Patrick,
PT>>
PT>>I just had to jump in here when you made reference to the OHR Explorer II.
PT>[...]
```

```
PT>Geeze... sorry I picked on your favorite manual. If anyone thinks I said
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```

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```
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```

PT>>>=>PStJTT

PT>=====

PT>Patrick Taber	Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
PT>Principal Software Engineer	Phone: (603) 880-0300
PT>Logiccraft Information Services	Fax: (603) 880-7229
PT>22 Cotton Road	
PT>Nashua N.H. 03063	Also known as: KC1TD

hi Pat
this is a test message.....please disregard....tk's and 73
John
W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4932] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <8BBB22B.00110036F6.uuout@vulcan.com>

PT> @FROM :ptaber@logiccraft.com	N
PT> @UMSGID :<199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>	N
PT>From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 29 07:44:46 1996	
PT>Reply-To: ptaber@logiccraft.com	
PT>From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>	
PT>To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>	
PT>Date: Thu, 29 Feb 1996 08:42:38 EST	

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PT>>>>==>PStJTT

PT>=====

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hi Pat
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John
W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4935] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <8BBB242.00110036FB.uuout@vulcan.com>

PT> @FROM :ptaber@logiccraft.com	N
PT> @UMSGID :<199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>	N
PT>From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 29 07:44:46 1996	
PT>Reply-To: ptaber@logiccraft.com	
PT>From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>	
PT>To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>	
PT>Date: Thu, 29 Feb 1996 08:42:38 EST	

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PT>=====

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W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4938] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003700.uuout@vulcan.com>

PT> @FROM :ptaber@logiccraft.com	N
PT> @UMSGID :<199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>	N
PT>From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 29 07:44:46 1996	

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4939] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003701.uuout@vulcan.com>

PT> @FROM :ptaber@logiccraft.com N
PT> @UMSGID :<199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU> N
PT>From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 29 07:44:46 1996
PT>Reply-To: ptaber@logiccraft.com
PT>From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>
PT>To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
PT>Date: Thu, 29 Feb 1996 08:42:38 EST

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PT>I just picked that book out of the air because it's the last kit I built. To
PT>me "adequate but terse" is a good thing. Adequate means it covers all the
PT>bases. Terse means it doesn't have the long descriptions you lampooned. I
PT>have no problem with the manual in question, it's everything I wanted and I
PT>wouldn't have been happier with more because then I'd be paying for things I
PT>don't want/need. I was just asking, in light of all the sighing and "misty
PT>water-colored memories" of Heathkit, how attractive the Heath-style manual
PT>would be if you had to pay for it?

PT>I'll be the first to admit that I learned to build from Heathkit manuals.
PT>Things I learned building Heathkits as a kid have held me in good stead lo
PT>these many years. I don't know where a kid could learn the same things
PT>today. But - hey - I've learned them. I don't want to read them over and
PT>over and over. To me a kit with a Heath-style manual would be a disaster
PT>because I'd doze off and burn myself on the soldering iron.

PT>>>>==>PStJTT

PT>=====

PT>Patrick Taber	Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
PT>Principal Software Engineer	Phone: (603) 880-0300

PT>>>>==>PStJTT

W4BXI

```
PT>Geezee... sorry I picked on your favorite manual. If anyone thinks I said
PT>the Explorer manual was bad, please be assured I think it's a fine manual.
PT>I'm actually happy with manuals from most kit suppliers except Ramsey.
```


PT>I just picked that book out of the air because it's the last kit I built. To
PT>me "adequate but terse" is a good thing. Adequate means it covers all the
PT>bases. Terse means it doesn't have the long descriptions you lampooned. I
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PT>wouldn't have been happier with more because then I'd be paying for things I
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PT>water-colored memories" of Heathkit, how attractive the Heath-style manual
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PT>over and over. To me a kit with a Heath-style manual would be a disaster
PT>because I'd doze off and burn myself on the soldering iron.

PT>>>>=>PStJTT

PT>=====

PT>Patrick Taber	Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
PT>Principal Software Engineer	Phone: (603) 880-0300
PT>Logiccraft Information Services	Fax: (603) 880-7229
PT>22 Cotton Road	
PT>Nashua N.H. 03063	Also known as: KC1TD

hi Pat
this is a test message.....please disregard....tk's and 73
John
W4BXI

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4946] Re: Heath demise
Message-ID: <8BBB21E.00110036F4.uuout@vulcan.com>

PT> @FROM :ptaber@logiccraft.com	N
PT> @UMSGID :<199602291341.IAA91332@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>	N
PT>From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Feb 29 07:44:46 1996	
PT>Reply-To: ptaber@logiccraft.com	
PT>From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>	
PT>To: Multiple recipients of list <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>	
PT>Date: Thu, 29 Feb 1996 08:42:38 EST	

PT>[...]

PT>I'm actually happy with manuals from most kit suppliers except Ramsey.

PT>would be if you had to pay for it?

PT>because I'd doze off and burn myself on the soldering iron.

PT>>>>=>PStJTT

PT>=====

PT>Nashua N.H. 03063 Also known as: KC1TD

W4BXI

— — —

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From grp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996

From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [4965] Re: Heath HW9 (slow) progress
Message-ID: <960229141542_234363020@emout09.mail.aol.com>

Steve-

You wrote: "I'm curious ... how are they taped as to prevent damage to the parts? Also, had the tape rotted since the kit sat for so long before the build?"

The parts are held in two strips of masking tape, a white strip and a blue strip. The blue strip is always on the right.

The taped parts were fan folded, and stored in tiny manilla parts envelopes. (Many of the parts are wrapped in either plastic bags, or in these manilla envelopes.)

None of the parts of the kit, including documentation, have shown any wear or deterioration whatsoever. The kit had been kept in a dry place, and the box acted like a time capsule. When I opened the box, the kit *smelled* like new parts! Remember, this kit was manufactured in 1989, and purchased from Heath in 1991, so it is relatively new.

Even on my 25 year old unbuilt HW-8, however, everything is wrapped up like new. It doesn't smell new, but it sure looks mint.

I imagine there might have been some deterioration, if either unit had been stored in a damp garage subject to wide temperature variation. But these beauties had been stored indoors.

I joke about "Heath 7, Rob Zip", but actually I'm very content to take this kit slowly. I'm savoring the experience. Now let's hope I can get it working.

73,

Rob

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: flanders@GroupZ.net (Jerry Flanders)
Subject: [4953] Re: Heath's Demise
Message-ID: <199602291643.LAA97602@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

/...Heath had amazing market presence. Their product line spanned the
/range from audio through radio to television, with a number of
/"interesting" branches (fishfinders(!), for instance). ...

And I built one of each. Well, maybe not all, but I guess I built at least two or three dozen different Heath products over the years. In the '50's I put together a complete set of service equipment for Radio/TV (a hobby-business - anybody ever try wiring up a tube tester? Must be a couple thousand wires to connect point-to-point). In the seventies I wired up a complete SB-series ham station of 5-6 pieces. Back then, Heath had their own charge account department - none of this MC/VISA stuff - and I had my own account with them. Just one phone call and the kit appeared on my doorstep a week later....

I put together that big projection TV they sold as a kit in the late seventies and early eighties. I built the fishfinder/depth sounder for my boat! I even still have an unbuilt Heathkit sitting in my garage (an intercom unit between pickup cab and camper mounted on back - sold the camper before I got around to the kit).

One problem that kept bugging me with my Heath products was that they didn't always work! I knew I had to be careful, and I was, but nonetheless an error can certainly occur every thousand or so connections/parts placements which leads to reduced performance.

I like to be able to repair my own stuff here, and Heath made that much easier, with the excellent manuals that came with most (but not all - I have seen some VERY disappointing manuals as well as the very good ones). In the fifties, sixties, and early seventies I also saved money by doing the wiring labor myself.

There was one negative: It is extremely difficult for me to know if my finished equipment is below par if it is working (but not perfectly). Without another perfect production sample to compare to, it is difficult to tell. I think this is a DEFINITE negative in kit-building. I recently bought a used HW-9 (I think Heath got the electronic design of that one RIGHT), and I have to wonder if it's receive sensitivity is up to par.

The electronics industry went multi-national somewhere in the seventies or eighties. Very cheap labor came along that made it possible for me to buy the finished product at the same price as Heath had to charge for the kit. Heath design fell far behind what was possible (remember their last medium power HF rig - no 160 meter coverage, and no QSK, and it was in competition with Japanese designs that did more for about the same money, without the risk of a wiring error). I think guys like myself that were using Heath products switched when these (mostly economic) events occurred. If you simply wanted a good working product (and not the building "experience") you let the factory wire it for you and check it out properly before shipping it to you, and all this at no real extra cost.

0.73's

Jerry Flanders W4UKU South Carolina flanders@groupz.net

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Frank Paxton III <paxton@sound.net>
Subject: [4957] Re: Heath's Demise
Message-ID: <3135E338.71B0@sound.net>

> Jerry Flanders W4UKU South Carolina flanders@groupz.net

hey jerry...do you by any chance have a manual for the HEATHKIT dwell
/ tach for automotive tuneups ? i need a copy and will, of course,
PAY..heheh

bought mine at a garage sale. it's a brown plastic case that opens to
reveal a NICE BIG analog meter...measures dwell, rpm, and ohms...

recently noticed that it's 'off' a bit. need to tune IT up !

frank.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Charles J Ludinsky <cjl@mbunix.mitre.org>
Subject: [4917] RE: Heathkits
Message-ID: <199602291528.KAA03230@mbunix.mitre.org>

All this discussion of Heathkits reminded me -- I have a Heath
HD-1250 grid dip meter that needs some work. Anyone have a
schematic and/or any other information regarding the HD-1250?

Regards,
Chuck, N1RXT
cjl@mitre.org

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: JC_Smith@designlink.com (JC Smith)
Subject: [4983] Re: In a shoebox....
Message-ID: <2855915485.133939413@designlink.com>

>The only thing I've come up with is a Hamstick somewhere inside. I don't
>care what it looks like, but I don't have room to put up a dipole and I

22 Cotton Road
Nashua N.H. 03063

Also known as: KC1TD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [4980] Re: Mil Spec QRP Rigs
Message-ID: <960229172837_234516206@mail02.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-02-29 00:28:59 EST, you write:

>An associate has a number of Delco 5300B radios. These "Mil Spec
>QRP rigs", i.e. "special forces" or "spy" radios, were manufactured
>in the late '60s and are housed in lunch box size (assuming you
>have a fairly generous lunch) Zero aluminum water tight cases.
>They originally included an antenna kit consisting of a couple of
>weights, two reels of wire with length marked in terms of
>frequency, and a reel of 50(?) ohm twinlead, all neatly wound on
>what appears to be 8mm olive drab film reels and fitted canvas
>pouch.

>
>Units contain 4-channel transmitter and receiver, some kind of
>antenna tuner, front-panel-accessible battery compartment and a
>miniature key on the front panel. Frequency range seems to be from
>2.2 MHz to 8 MHz. All very, very cute. Neither of us know anything
>about the rigs, but output transistors seem to be 1 or 2 2N2782s.
>They also have a Collins mechanical filter and a ceramic filter,
>presumably paired with the front panel BW switch (0.5 and 3 kHz ?).

>
>I'm not sure how many he has, but unfortunately the drawn aluminum
>Zero cases were stolen from some of the units while in storage.
>Must not have been hams since they left the radios! Some others
>are still in the box, with case and antenna pouch.

>
>Several years ago, I recall seeing a ham magazine article about
>this type of behind-the-lines radios, but can't remember in what
>magazine or when. I think one of the two radios discussed in the
>article was the Delco 5300. Does anyone recall anything of this
>article or any other?

>
>Does anyone have a manual available for sale or copying?

>
>Does anyone have a good idea of the market price for these radios?

>
>

Thanks

Some info on behind-the-lines radios:

Most of these radios (proof QRP works) used powers between 5 and 20 watts. The frequencies normally covered 2-8 or 2-12 MHz. The idea was to use either ground-wave or high-angle coverage for solid contacts "locally" in a 200 to 600 mile range. Higher frequencies or low-angle antennas would not have been appropriate.

Early "spy radios" were CW-only, but later versions appeared with a code-burst set. Some code-burst units allowed the operator to pre-record a CW message to be sent by burst at an appointed time. The code burst units in the mid-1960s and a little later were 300 baud.

Many spy and BTL radios relied on crystal control for transmit and receive. Frequently, the transmit and receive frequencies were separate. In some sets or on some operations the crystals were color coded (rather than frequency numbers) for easier operation by non-technical types.

Virtually all BTL and spy radios had an internal antenna tuner. It was necessary to change frequencies a lot and have a fairly invisible antenna-coax was not used.

One military radio for BTL use was the AN/GRC-109. This was a rugged tube radio set consisting of separate receiver, transmitter, power supply and optional code-burst unit. The '109 covered approximately 2-22 MHz. The RF output was in the 10 watt area. The '109 had an internal key. Instead of a CW sidetone, the op listened to their own keying in the receiver (RF protected) or watched the tuning lamps on the transmitter. The transmitter was tuned by a tuning chart and adjusting tuning lamps for maximum brightness. The '109 power supply took 6 VDC or 90-250 VAC. I think Fair Radio has some AN/GRC-109s.

Another military radio for BTL and special forces was the AN/PRC-64. This was a low-powered 5 watt CW and 1-watt AM radio. There was no VFO and the radio used up to eight crystals for four channels in the 2-8 Mhz region. These had internal key, tuner and a plug for a code-burst unit. I think the AN/PRC-64 was solid-state.

These radios were replaced by backpack type HF radios such as the AN/PRC-70 (2-75 MHz FM, USB, CW) and the AN/PRC-104 (2-30 MHz USB, LSB, CW).

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Ahlgren Jukka <Ahlgren@ncsbsr02ou.ntc.nokia.com>

Subject: [4901] Re: NEW WAY TO CQ???
Message-ID: <31354FFD@ncsbsr01ou.ntc.nokia.com>

Hopefully one of the last replies...

>Let's make an assumption the .-.- is the character "+" I don't know if
>it IS an international morse character, after all.

>73! =paul= wb8zjl

In Finland and Sweden .-.- is the character "a with dots"
(two dots above the a). In some other countries it seems
to be "a with whatever symbol above it".

By the way, how can we judge the operator sending .-.- instead of
-.-. without asking himself what is the reason he sends that way?
The problem may be in his ears as well as in his rig. We never know.

73/72 de Jukka OH6SC

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Ralph L. Irons" <rli8m@weyl.math.virginia.edu>
Subject: [4908] Re: Noise Cancellation
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.90.960229095047.43007A-100000@weyl.math.Virginia.EDU>

Donald Coleman describes an interesting, even simpler circuit
for eliminating local noise. I wonder if he could be coaxed
into posting a simple ascii drawing of it? I'd enjoy trying
that circuit, too!

Now that I see that some of these simple circuits work, I'm
getting interested in why they work. Maybe Donald could
amplify a little on why his coax circuit shunts energy away
only if it appears both on the antenna and the piece of coax.
And perhaps Stan could say something about how noise signals
cancel each other in his circuit.

I'm sure glad to have these circuits to experiment with! They
make homebrew QRP operation possible at this electrically
noisy QTH, and they save me having to buy a commercial
product (instead, I can build another rig!)

Thanks to all who have responded in this "noise cancellation"
thread,

72, Ralph AA6UL/4

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@nflld.com>
Subject: [4989] Re: OHR400
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960229012653.0076fa68@public.compuser.net>

Hi Mike,

I haven't built my OHR 400 yet but I did have a Classic Dualbander (same design) and it lacked AGC action. I noticed there was a message on a short while back about some component changes that Dick made to the OHR-400 and some other changes by the qrp-1 gang here that seemed to make some sense (changing some resistors and diodes to get more AGC voltage to the IF).

I'm curious if you have any of these mods in your rig?

It's about time we rejuvenated some of the old Classic/Spirit mods since they are pretty applicable to the OHR 400. From our good (but quiet) friend Daniel in Singapore and Scott ND3P (QQ 7/95) changing out the tune/operate switch for one with a momentary return and a paddle handle to act an emergency keyer (reads upside down though). Or adding a Wilderness KC-1 keyer/counter (which I plan to do). Or adding the Explorer II varicap/bandwidth tuning, or adding a zero beat using a momentary-off-momentary dpdt tune/operate switch again, or an s-meter.swr/battery meter from Guido HB9BQB (QQ 10/94) or

When (I first need to get started- hi) I am done with my Quadbander I'm sure it will become my main QRP contest/dx rig for the base station (ehh good buddy..) so I may even go all out and really pile on the gadgets.

So who's done some mods out there? And has anyone figured out if the new AGC in the Explorer II looks like a candidate for a retrofit in the OHR-400/Classic/Spirit or has some of the mods that OHR offered helped out the AGC situation? Like Mike, I've been blasted a few times with audio since with the OHR 400 design using a low gain front end rf preamp and minicircuit ring mixer I tend to really try to dig out the weak ones (which you can hear) so the audio gain is cranked up.

Build on QRPers..

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 19:15 2/29/96 EST, you wrote:

>

>Now that I've been using my OHR400 more, I've
>noticed some things about it.
>
>When does the AGC kick in? I've had my ears blown
>out a few times while tuning around.
>
>I've replaced the trimcap C134 with the new
>one sent by Dick, but I still get some warm
>up drift. Anyone else?
>
>What a great filter! My FT890 doesn't come close
>to this kind of tight.
>
>It sure is nice having that TUNE/OPERATE switch
>right up front.
>
>
>=====

>7.3 de Michael AA0UB miker@cc.com michael@frii.com

```
-----
| Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:        rgobrick@nfld.com |
|                    bgobrick@nlnet.nf.ca |
| Compuserve:     70466.1405@compuserve.com |
|-----
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: John D Young <jdy@whitney.ufl.edu>
Subject: [4994] RE Ramsey VHF Kits
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960229220758.18088B-100000@whitney>

Chris

I feel I need defend Ramsey, at least for their VHF transceiver and VHF amps. I build the 220 kit about 2 years ago. The only problem I had was tuning the PLL. After a call to the factory I got a simple fix that got it going. The low power was just not enough to keep the 30 mile link across Jacksonville FL running full time so we added the 220 amp. About that time we discovered that part of our problem was TV-12 at the mid point of our path. It was putting over 25 millivolt (not micro) into the front end of the receiver. The older Ramsey VHF amps have preamps that they recommend you remove to reduce intermod. We went one better and installed a helical resonator by toko from digikey. We now have a 220 packet link that is up 100% for over a year.

It aint fancy. It has no digital display or S meter. A mic is not included. But it works well for us.

The new 2 mtr and 220 amps come with the helical resonators installed. I know of only one other VHF amp that has them. The 'piece of junk from Rat Shack' which I run mobile.

If you are willing to do a little work and understand what the Ramsey is and is not you can get good service from them.

If you do buy one drop me a note and I will send you details.

73 John WA8KNE
Jacksonville FL

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [4997] Re: RF chokes
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960229193936.6875C-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Stuart,
My comments:

- 1) The "well known designer" had it backwards! The lowest, series self-resonance should be HIGHER than the frequency of interest so that the choke exhibits INDUCTIVE reactance.
- 2) A reactance of 5 to 10 times the impedance of the load is correct.
- 3) I believe the purpose of the Litz wire was to work well on 160. The "Pi" windings were to minimize distributed capacitance (increase the self-resonant frequency).
- 4) In QRP rigs a good design method is to use a high-permeability core (ferrite) to minimize the number of turns, thereby minimizing the distributed capacitance. This will keep the first resonance as high as possible. For a given core it also minimizes DC flux.
- 5) In the typical shunt-fed QRP PA stage the collector choke is in parallel with the output circuit (50-Ohm filter or a transformer). If the choke reactance is 10 times the (say) 50-Ohm load, then 10% of the RF current will flow in the choke, through the bypass cap, to ground. That current is lost (does not contribute to output). I've simplified the problem here, by assuming sine-wave output, but you get the idea.

Hope this helps some. 72, Dave, W6EMD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: John D Young <jdy@whitney.ufl.edu>
Subject: [4995] RE RS Meter
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.960229222549.18088C-100000@whitney>

Scott

I have the older RS meter with computer interface. I like it a lot. When you figure it does the job of a single channel a2d board with 12 bit resolution, will work with any computer with a 1200 baud serial port and handles all the functions and ranges, it is a steal.

It will record about 2 / second. Not fast enough for a digital storage scope but takes the place of a chart recorder. I just made a 12 hour run on a battery under load and feed the data into lotus and printed the graph. No program writing required.

I have at lease five diferent programs that will work with it. It is so simple to interface we have used it to record data by packet by hooking it to a tnc.

For the money you cant go wrong.

73 John W8KNE
Jacksonville FL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Kevin Muenzler <muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu>
Subject: [4951] RE: Sloppy Code
Message-ID: <01BB0691.4E145300@muenzlerk.uthscsa.edu>

Brad Mugleston[SMTP:bmug@gwl.com] wrote:

>I just caught up on my digest reading. Interesting comments re sloppy code work.
>Just thought Id throw in my 2 cents worth.
>
>Im a tech+. Probably never would have gotten into Ham if it wouldn't have been the no
>code way (Always wanted to but the code was too hard, not enough time and no real
>incentive other than some desire). Well now I have the code, at least good

```
>pass the 5wpm test and Im hooked. Still very little time but when I do have some
I
>can practice and try to make contacts. The written exams dont see to be a
factor in
>my life (its easier to haul a book out and study for 10 to 15 min than practice
the
>code when your waiting on an appointment). When I get to the point I can pass
the
>13wpm. I will be the poor sender on the General bands (novice bands are have too
much
>noise). I will get better if someone will work me. If you only work bad fists
on the
>novice bands, Ill never get any better. I know my -.-. --.- may be -.-. --.-
some
>times but I won't get any better if no one calls me back. Ask me what -.-. is
suppose
>to be or suggest that -.-. should be --.- but DONT spin the dial PLEASE. TNX
>
>
>de KBØROL QTH Aurora, CO rig 40M OHR Explorer II at 2.3W, antenna delta loop at
18' K
>
```

I think the biggest problem today with CW and sloppy fists is the lack of good/critical examples. Most new amateurs are getting in hobby "on their own" instead of being "elmered in." I'm not sure if it is because of the lack of Elmers or the unwillingness of new hams to ask for help. I tend to lean more towards the latter because I know of no hams, in my area, that wouldn't be willing to help a new ham if they would just ask. I was taught to send good CW by just sending .-.-.-.-.-.-.-.-.-. for several minutes at a time, this help get the rhythm.

Kevin, WB5RUE
muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu

Subj: re: SMT

Been reading the SMT thread here for several days now. I think that history has probably shown much concern with each new change in technology. Most hams were scared to death of transistors when they first came into usage. (Note the continued number of tube type projects in the ARRL Handbook not that many years ago.) Then when IC's became popular, many hams thought they'd never again be able to work on or build our own equipment. But, lo and behold, we adapted and now IC's are as common as 807's and 12BA6's used to be. We will, by necessity, adapt to SMT technology too. As hams we have a long history of technology enhancement. So guys (and gals - sorry Laura), instead of sitting around bemoaning the coming of SMT technology, why not become a part of it. You'll burn up a few devices and/or boards in the process, but in ten years or so, we'll all probably wonder how we ever got along without SMT.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

Brad Bradfield, PE
108 Forestwood
Corinth, TX 76205

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WB0CGH@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M)

Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: QLF@mimi@magic.itg.ti.com
Subject: [4912] re: SMT
Message-ID: <9602291512.AA20608@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: re: SMT

Been reading the SMT thread here for several days now. I think that history has probably shown much concern with each new change in technology. Most hams

were scared to death of transistors when they first came into usage. (Note the continued number of tube type projects in the ARRL Handbook not that many years ago.) Then when IC's became popular, many hams thought they'd never again be able to work on or build our own equipment. But, lo and behold, we adapted and now IC's are as common as 807's and 12BA6's used to be. We will, by necessity, adapt to SMT technology too. As hams we have a long history of technology enhancement. So guys (and gals - sorry Laura), instead of sitting around bemoaning the coming of SMT technology, why not become a part of it. You'll burn up a few devices and/or boards in the process, but in ten years or so, we'll all probably wonder how we ever got along without SMT.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

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ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M)

Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 29-Feb-1996 0905" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [4906] re: Surface Mount (again)
Message-ID: <9602291420.AA20010@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> While hams *do* seem to have a unique fear and loathing of surface
> mount, other electronics hobbyists seem to have few problems with it.

You folks should read the GHz transverter articles in QEX.

No particular problem here with surface mount, but why bother at HF? The pain (in the neck) factor is substantial. For instance, I recently debugged a DF circuit I was building by noting that I'd used a 47K resistor in place of a 4700 ohm. Good luck with surface mount, where many chip components

aren't even labeled! Lift one lead of every resistor and measure? Good luck again!

ObQRP: A fellow ham here at work is interested in the NN1G rig... anyone have a pointer (http or ftp) to mods and updates for that radio? I think I saw an RIT mod once.

```
=====
Tom Randolph  N100Q  NE-QRP 419  QRP-L 87  ARRL      randolph@est.enet.dec.com
=====
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Todd Nichols <nichols@rtp.ericsson.se>
Subject: [4918] Re: Surface Mount (again)
Message-ID: <199602291534.KAA16793@sunmgc2.rtp.ericsson.se>

Richard G. Kellner wrote:

[snip]

> Add to the list of vendors Communications Specialists in Orange, CA at
> 800-854-0547. They have a CR-1 chip resistor kit which includes all 5%
> values from 10 ohms to 10 megohms for \$49.95. Also a CC-1 capacitor kit
> which includes every 10% value from 1pf to .33uf for \$49.95. I haven't
> found a cheaper way to get into this with such a good assortment of
> parts.

This is what I meant. These are great kits for getting started in SMT... but \$100 for initial parts outlay just for R's and C's will be above some folks' budgets. But if you're good at handling the leads from a multimeter that has a capacitance function, then buying junk electronics with SMT parts might be a good way to get started...for these parts, anyway. Unmarked semiconductors are still a pain.

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I wrote:

[snip]

> As for physical connections, I believe I would follow the lead of
> manufacturers and drop a small dab of epoxy on the board, then smoosh the
> component into the the epoxy. THIS provides the physical strength, and
> is why SMT-built devices are usually considered more reliable than
> thru-hole-built devices.

[snip]

Not everyone who makes SMT boards commercially puts epoxy down. That is for when you're doing SMT's that are wave-soldered (you don't want them to float away); most of the folks I have seen who do IR reflow just put down solder paste with a screen, place the components, and then reflow. For these small parts, solder alone provides a great deal of strength. And if the pads are

sized correctly and the right amount of paste is put down (and a host of other processing variables...), then the solder's surface tension will even straighten up misaligned parts (it can do other things too, like tombstoning).

Jim N2GO wrote:

[snip]

> My version of SMT... small squares of single sided PCB about 1/8"square
> are glued to a double sided PCB ground plane with Krazy glue. It works at
> VHF. Not always pretty but it usually works. I build in modular fashion
> with pcb walls with feedthroughs around each stage. When I figure out a
> better way to build the stage, I pop off the "pcb islands" and change the
> layout. No need to re-etch a board. Small mosquito hemostats from the
> office work great for positioning the "islands" and for holding parts while
> soldering.

This is a nice prototyping technique. A big plus is that (if I'm envisioning this right, with gaps between the squares) it probably has less stray capacitance than a solid sheet of dielectric due to the lower dielectric constant of air (at least stray to ground, which I have often had to reduce by etching openings in the ground plane under certain components). OTOH, I probably would not build something this way that I expected to hold up to vibration; say, a rig I put in my truck. But it is great for debugging.

Laura VE7LDH wrote:

[snip]

> While hams *do* seem to have a unique fear and loathing of surface
> mount, other electronics hobbyists seem to have few problems with it.
> Elektor sell a book of surface mount projects, have ads with
> surface-mount goodies in them, and the (English) February 1996 edition
> has a complete surface-mount FM radio. I want to build one!

[snip]

I was in Sweden a couple of weeks ago, and I saw that issue in a newsstand. It is laid out very open, so people should have no trouble building it. However, it used one IC (plus to some, minus to others) which I did not recognize (i.e., didn't know right off hand where to get it - big surprise; European mag, and the whole world is not the US :-). From reading Elektor and other rags, I'd say that the UK and Europe in general have much less problems using SMT than North American electronics enthusiasts. Or maybe they put up a good front :-). :-)

Aside: I had to go to Sweden (I work for Ericsson) and I went through the London's Gatwick airport. While there, I picked up some Curiously Strong mints (4 boxes!); I never thought I'd get any of those "classic" boxes. Now I'm hooked on the darned things, and I'll have to go back to get some more :-). Maybe I'll have 49'er variations, each with it's own chassis. Maybe even an SMT version (how's that for closure?).

I'm sorry if these discussions seem long. I'm really interested in the subject, and I think that the ham community really needs to talk about these things. And people who build on this list think that a well-designed thru-hole product (like the NorCal 40, for instance) is a work of art when it is assembled with care; likewise, I also think that a well-designed and -built SMT board is beautiful in its own right.

72,
Todd

Todd Nichols KB0HQU Ericsson Inc. (919) 685-2597
nichols@rtp.ericsson.se Research Triangle Park, NC
"Ensign, set a new course. There's coffee in that nebula!" - Capt. Janeway

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4928] Re: test #32
Message-ID: <8BBB22B.00110036F9.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Fred
This is a test message...I'm trying to send msg into Wirenet;;;
let me know if you get this!
tk
John

* SLMR 2.1a * This tagline stolen by Silly Little Mail Reader!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4929] Re: test #32
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003703.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Fred
This is a test message...I'm trying to send msg into Wirenet;;;
let me know if you get this!
tk
John

* SLMR 2.1a * This tagline stolen by Silly Little Mail Reader!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4934] Re: test #32
Message-ID: <8BBB242.00110036FD.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Fred
This is a test message...I'm trying to send msg into Wirenet;;;
let me know if you get this!
tk
John

* SLMR 2.1a * This tagline stolen by Silly Little Mail Reader!

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4925] Re: test message
Message-ID: <8BBB242.00110036FF.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Dennis
thks for your help on the phone just now.
If you can read this...all is working!
tk and 73
John

* SLMR 2.1a * I'm in shape ... round's a shape isn't it?

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4926] Re: test message
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003704.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Dennis
thks for your help on the phone just now.
If you can read this...all is working!
tk and 73
John

* SLMR 2.1a * I'm in shape ... round's a shape isn't it?

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4930] Re: test message
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003705.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Dennis
thks for your help on the phone just now.
If you can read this...all is working!
tks and 73
John

* SLMR 2.1a * I'm in shape ... round's a shape isn't it?

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4941] Re: test message
Message-ID: <8BBB242.00110036FE.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi Dennis
thks for your help on the phone just now.
If you can read this...all is working!
tks and 73
John

* SLMR 2.1a * I'm in shape ... round's a shape isn't it?

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4927] Re: test message # 35
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003706.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi dennis
Please advise if you get this...thanks!
73John

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4943] Re: test message # 35
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003707.uuout@vulcan.com>

Hi dennis
Please advise if you get this...thanks!
73John

* SLMR 2.1a * We all live in a yellow subroutine.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4942] Re: test msg # 36
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003709.uuout@vulcan.com>

hey dennis
if you get this let me know
thanks
John

* SLMR 2.1a * On a clear disk you can seek forever

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: w4bxi@vulcan.com (W4BXI)
Subject: [4944] Re: test msg # 36
Message-ID: <8BBB24A.0011003708.uuout@vulcan.com>

hey dennis
if you get this let me know
thanks
John

* SLMR 2.1a * On a clear disk you can seek forever

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Raymond.Anderson@Eng.Sun.COM (Ray Anderson)
Subject: [4967] Re: Toko part, "quad coil" RMC-2A6597HM
Message-ID: <9602291933.AA11701@radium.Eng.Sun.COM>

>
> Hi, I've got a Toko part from Digi-key. It is a "quad coil" (whatever that
> means) part no. RMC-6597HM used for many of the Motorola "all in one chip"
> receivers (demodulation). I only need to connect 2 of the leads to the board, but
> there are 5 to choose from.
>
> Does anybody know which one, or how to obtain info about this part.
>
> -SVein, CA
>

It is pins 1 and 3. Verify with an ohmeter.

```

3-----+      4
        |
2      L      <--Bottom view
        |
1-----+      6
```

This part has an internal capacitor (180 pF) across the inductor
and has a Q of about 110 at 455kHz

72-

Ray WB6TPU

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [4972] Re: tolerance
Message-ID: <199602292010.PAA91938@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>I was>glad opinion shifted toward the tolerant. I heard things that I
>could not copy. (repeat) could NOT
>copy. Now this presents a problem. I normally like to think of
>myself as a tolerant person.
>Regards and 72,

>Charles Cashion
>KC5SNU/AE

Hello Charles,Gang,

It takes many grains of sand to make a beach.

72 es 73
de AA1IK
Ernie,Qrp all of the time,QLF some of the time,but improving.
de AA1IK N.E.-QRP-C. # 202 (Lead by example, It is better to)
 QRP-L member #95. (pull a string than it is to push it.)
Ernie Gregoire
RR 1 Box 221
Canaan, NH. 03741

New England QRP Club, information
available on request by sending me a
S.A.S.E. or via E-mail.

e-mail : GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Feb 29 22:42:44 1996
From: Johnson_Dan@AAC.COM
Subject: [4955] Re: Wed Nite FOX
Message-ID: <9602291951.22763.aa@SMROUTER.AAC.COM>

> OH! He just sent " WA4NID de W6ZH k "
> I listen *VERY* carefully for a few minutes.
> I can occasionally hear WA4&%\$. Then I Hear *&ID.
 ^ .-.-